

Johnson (TX)	Newman (Correa)	Simpson
(Pallone)	O'Halleran	(Fulcher)
Kildee (Pappas)	(Pappas)	Sires (Pallone)
Kind (Beyer)	Palazzo	Stanton
Kirkpatrick	(Fleischmann)	(Huffman)
(Pallone)	Payne (Pallone)	Steube
Lieu (Beyer)	Pressley	(Franklin, C.
Long	(Neguse)	Scott)
(Fleischmann)	Roybal-Allard	Titus (Pallone)
Lowenthal	(Correa)	Van Drew
(Beyer)	Ruppersberger	(Tenney)
Malliotakis	(Sarbanes)	Waters (Garcia
(Gimenez)	Ryan (OH)	(TX))
Moore (Beyer)	(Correa)	Welch (Pallone)

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 41 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1304

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PERLMUTTER) at 1 o'clock and 4 minutes p.m.

VETERAN SERVICE RECOGNITION ACT OF 2022

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 1508, I call up the bill (H.R. 7946) to provide benefits for noncitizen members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 1508, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary, printed in the bill, is adopted and the bill, as amended, is considered read.

The text of the bill, as amended, is as follows:

H.R. 7946

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Veteran Service Recognition Act of 2022".

SEC. 2. STUDY AND REPORT ON NONCITIZEN VETERANS REMOVED FROM THE UNITED STATES.

(a) **STUDY REQUIRED.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall jointly carry out a study on noncitizen veterans and noncitizen former members of the Armed Forces who were removed from the United States during the period beginning on January 1, 1990, and ending on the date of the enactment of this Act, which shall include the following:

(1) The number of noncitizens removed by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement or the Immigration and Naturalization Service during the period covered by the report who served in the Armed Forces for an aggregate period of more than 180 days.

(2) For each noncitizen described in paragraph (1)—

(A) the country of nationality or last habitual residence of the noncitizen;

(B) the total length of time the noncitizen served as a member of the Armed Forces;

(C) each ground on which the noncitizen was ordered removed under section 237(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1227(a)) or section 212(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)), as applicable; and

(D) whether the noncitizen appealed the removal order to the Board of Immigration Appeals.

(3) Each of the following enumerations:

(A) The number of noncitizens described in paragraph (1) who were discharged or released from service under honorable conditions.

(B) The number of noncitizens described in paragraph (1) who were discharged or released from service under other than honorable conditions.

(C) The number of noncitizens described in paragraph (1) who were deployed overseas.

(D) The number of noncitizens described in paragraph (1) who served on active duty in the Armed Forces in an overseas contingency operation.

(E) The number of noncitizens described in paragraph (1) who were awarded decorations or medals.

(F) The number of noncitizens described in paragraph (1) who applied for benefits under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

(G) The number of noncitizens described in paragraph (1) who receive benefits described in subparagraph (F).

(4) A description of the reasons preventing any of the noncitizens who applied for benefits described in paragraph (3)(F) from receiving such benefits.

(b) **REPORT.**—Not later than 90 days after the date of the completion of the study required under subsection (a), the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall jointly submit a report containing the results of such study to the appropriate congressional committees.

SEC. 3. INFORMATION SYSTEM ON VETERANS SUBJECT TO REMOVAL.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall create—

(1) a protocol for identifying noncitizens who are or may be veterans; and

(2) a system for maintaining information about noncitizen veterans identified pursuant to the protocol created under paragraph (1) and information provided by the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness under section 4(d).

(b) **INFORMATION SHARING.**—The system shall be shared across all components of the Department of Homeland Security, including Enforcement and Removal Operations, the Office of the Principal Legal Advisor, Homeland Security Investigations, and the Military Family Immigration Advisory Committee.

(c) **CONSIDERATION OF VETERAN STATUS.**—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall ensure that, in the case of any noncitizen veteran who is potentially removable, and in any removal proceeding against such a noncitizen veteran, information available under this system is taken into consideration, including for purposes of any adjudication on the immigration status of such veteran.

(d) **USE OF SYSTEM REQUIRED.**—The Secretary of Homeland Security may not initiate removal proceedings against an individual prior to using the system established under subsection (a) to attempt to determine whether the individual is a veteran. If the Secretary of Homeland Security determines that such an individual is or may be a veteran, the Secretary shall notify the Military Family Immigration Advisory Committee concurrently upon initiating removal proceedings against such individual.

(e) **TRAINING.**—Beginning in the first fiscal year that begins after the Secretary of Home-

land Security completes the requirements under subsection (a), personnel of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement shall participate, on an annual basis, in a training on the protocol developed under this section.

SEC. 4. MILITARY FAMILY IMMIGRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall establish an advisory committee, to be known as the "Military Family Immigration Advisory Committee", to provide recommendations to the Secretary of Homeland Security on the exercise of discretion in any case involving removal proceedings for—

(1) a member of the Armed Forces;

(2) a veteran; or

(3) a covered family member.

(b) **MEMBERSHIP.**—The Advisory Committee shall be composed of 9 members, appointed by the Secretary of Homeland Security.

(c) **CASE REVIEWS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 30 days after the Advisory Committee identifies or is notified about the case of an individual described in subsection (a), the Advisory Committee shall meet to review the case and to provide a written recommendation to the Secretary of Homeland Security on whether—

(A) an exercise of discretion is warranted, including—

(i) termination of removal proceedings;

(ii) parole;

(iii) deferred action;

(iv) a stay of removal;

(v) administrative closure; or

(vi) authorization to apply for any other form of relief; or

(B) to continue seeking the removal of such individual.

(2) **SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION.**—An individual who is the subject of a case review under paragraph (1) may submit information to the Advisory Committee, and the Advisory Committee shall consider such information.

(3) **PROCEDURES.**—In conducting each case review under paragraph (1), the Advisory Committee shall consider, as factors weighing in favor of a recommendation under paragraph (1)(A)—

(A) with respect to a member of the Armed Forces, whether the individual—

(i) was an enlisted member or officer of the Armed Forces;

(ii) received a medal or decoration, was deployed, or was otherwise evaluated for merit in service during his or her service in the Armed Forces;

(iii) is a national of a country that prohibits repatriation of an individual after any service in the Armed Forces; or

(iv) contributed to his or her local community during his or her service in the Armed Forces;

(B) with respect to a veteran, whether the individual—

(i) was an enlisted member or officer of the Armed Forces;

(ii) completed a period of service in the Armed Forces and was discharged under conditions other than dishonorable;

(iii) received a medal or decoration, was deployed, or was otherwise evaluated for merit in service during his or her service in the Armed Forces;

(iv) is a national of a country that prohibits repatriation of an individual after any service in the Armed Forces of another country; or

(v) contributed to his or her local community during or after his or her service in the Armed Forces; and

(C) with respect to a covered family member, whether the individual—

(i) supported a member of the Armed Forces serving on active duty or a veteran, including through financial support, emotional support, or caregiving; or

(ii) contributed to his or her local community during or after the military service of the member or of the veteran.